

CLERK: Do you want the one filed previously, Senator, or the one that was filed this morning?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I'll take the original one that was up there and discount the one that was offered this morning.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Chambers would move to return LB 59 to Select File for specific amendment. The amendment would be to amend the Morehead-DeCamp amendment. (Read amendment.) (See page 2382 in the Journal).

PRESIDENT: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, the purpose of this amendment so you will understand it is to put on the Legislature the requirement to set the sales tax at that extra half percent that the Legislature apparently feels needs to be established. We have now taken the tax off food. We're going to give the credit which I believe is what we ought to do. Yesterday there was some discussion as to whether or not the Legislature is prepared to assume the responsibility of our actions. Well as a member of the Legislature who participated in those actions, I think the question is valid and I think the answer ought to be, yes, that we will assume that responsibility. So, I want to take away the attempt by the Legislature in LB 59E to shift our responsibility to the State Board of Equalization. We, if we have determined that a certain tax rate is necessary, should set that rate. I'm not going to go through all of the arguments and discussion that we've already heard which deal with how difficult it is to try to compel the State Board to do what it is we want them to do. If you want a job done well, you want it done properly, the best guarantee of that is to do it yourself. We understand the rationale for a tax increase. We understand why a tax increase is necessary. We have done the things that have necessitated a tax increase. Now if on the other hand, the Legislature feels that it has not done anything, necessitating a tax increase, we ought to get everything out of LB 59 that refers to the setting of an additional half percent sales tax. These things that I've said all being true and beyond controversy, I hope that you will vote to return this bill and add the amendment that I'm suggesting.

PRESIDENT: Chair recognizes Senator Morehead.

SENATOR MOREHEAD: Mr. President and speakers of the body, speakers of the body, it's morning isn't it? The morning after, hello everyone, members of the body, I have to rise to oppose Senator Chambers' effort to return this bill to adjust the DeCamp-Morehead amendment. There is certain numbers